

Message Text

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PAGE 01 LA PAZ 09579 301900Z

ACTION L-03

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 H-01 EB-08 COME-00 TRSE-00

CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 /030 W

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R 301719Z NOV 77

FM AMEMBASSY LA PAZ

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8328

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EMIN,BL

SUBJECT: IMPC/EMBOSA

REF: STATE 266552

1. EMBOFF HAS SPOKEN SEVERAL TIMES WITH REPRESENTATIVES OF COMIBOL AND MINISTRY OF MINES WHO HAD HAD FIRST HAND KNOWLEDGE OF IMPC CASE FROM THE BEGINNING. THEY REITERATED BELIEF: 1) THAT IMPC CASE IS CLOSED; 2) THAT COMPENSATION TO FRANK TYE WAS MORE THAN GENEROUS, HAVING INCLUDED PAYMENT FOR MACHINERY BOUGHT IN ERROR (SUCTION DREDGE); 3) THAT IT WOULD BE POLITICALLY INCONVENIENT ESPECIALLY NOW TO REOPEN THE CASE; 4) FINALLY THAT A TWO YEAR STATUTE OF LIMITATIONS ON SUCH MATTERS HAS EXPIRED IN THIS CASE AND IT WOULD BE DIFFICULT TO REOPEN IT.

2. GOB POSITION IS AGAINST HOLDING NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN LAWYERS SINCE IT WOULD APPEAR GOB WOULD BE ADMITTING THAT SUBJECT CASE WAS NOT FULLY AND FAIRLY SETTLE WHICH THEY BELIEVE IT WAS. HOWEVER, GOB HAS AGREED TO INSTRUCT ITS LAWYERS TO HOLD TALKS WITH IMPC LAWYERS FOR PURPOSES OF EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION.

3. IT WOULD APPEAR THAT THE GOB' ATTITUDE MAY HAVE HARDENED SOMEWHAT IN THE PAST YEAR. IT IS OUR OPINION THAT DISCUSSIONS BETWEEN LAWYERS HOULD PROCEED AND, BASED ON THE OUTCOME, PERHAPS

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A HIGHER LEVEL APPROACH BY THE EMBASSY TO THE GOB CAN BE MADE IF THE MERITS OF THE CASE WARRANT IT AND NO FURTHER MOVEMENT IS LIKELY TO RESULT FROM DISCUSSIONS AMONG THE LAWYERS. AT PRESENT COMIBOL GENERAL MANAGER GRAL. CARLOS ALCOREZA IS OUT OF THE COUNTRY (USSR) AND MINISTER OF MINES GRAL. ALFONSO VILLALPANDO HAS JUST BEEN NAMED TO BE COMMANDER IN CHIEF OF THE ARMY. NEW MINISTER OF MINES NOT YET NAMED. INCREASED POLITICAL ACTIVITY

AS A RESULT OF BOLIVIA'S MOVE TOWARD DEMOCRATIZATION WILL MAKE
IT MORE DIFFICULT FOR GOB TO BE MORE FORTHCOMING THAN IT
ALREADY HAS BEEN IN IMPC CASE. APART FROM THE ABOVE, EMBASSY
HAS NO FURTHER RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE MOMENT AS TO HOW
DEPARTMENT SHOULD RESPOND TO IMPC REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE BUT
AGREES WITH DEPARTMENT THAT USG EFFORTS SHOULD COMPLEMENT AND
NOT SUBSTITUTE FOR REMEDIES IMPC AND ITS LAWYERS MAY PURSUE
ON THEIR OWN.
BOEKER

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Message Attributes

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Sent Date: 30-Nov-1977 12:00:00 am
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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SAS ID: 523855
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: IMPC/EMBOSA
TAGS: EMIN, BL
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